

ATTC NO. _____

AC NO. _____

OFFICE NO. _____

NAME OF REPORTER _____

TIME OF REPORTING Between 1200 and 1215 CST

APPEARANCE Balloon

SIZE 1' Thick - 2' Circum.

COLOR M.

NO. IN GROUP 1

SOUND Whistling Noise

PHOTO SKETCHES

Temporary ATTC Form 3-51
(Jan 50)

DATE OF FILE 11 Aug 1946

LOCATION Hazel, Minnesota

SIGHT Two children

DATE IN TO ATTC _____

COUNTRY _____

STATE _____

ALTITUDE Varied

LENGTH OF THE OBJECT _____

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

landed then shot up to height
of approx. 30 ft. Manuevered
around trees and again "shot
off" in NE direction.

UNRELIABLE REPLY

Incident No. 162 -- 11 August 1948, 1200 Hours, Hamel, Minnesota. Two children, ages ten and eight, described a dull gray object two feet in diameter and one foot thick, shaped like two plates together which settled gently to the ground. It clanked when it touched down. On the ground it emitted a whistling noise and "shot" up to twenty feet where it hesitated, whistled once more, "shot" up to thirty feet, then "shot" off in a northeast direction.

AMC Opinion: This apparent bit of fantasy is hardly worth further consideration.

Incident #162 -- Mabel, Minnesota -- 11 August 1948

No astronomical explanation is possible for this incident. A meteorite would not have descended so gently, nor would it have risen again.

It seems incredible that this could have been an actual physical occurrence, but if it was, it is doubly unfortunate that no mature observers were at hand. If the object did land just a few feet away, one would think that even children would have given a more detailed description. Is it known whether the children have normal vision? To one with myopic vision, even a buzzard or hawk gliding to a landing might appear as a strange object.

With 174 incidents thus eliminated, there remain thirty-four which contain some evidence but have no apparent ready explanation. This statement is true only under the assumption that the evidence is accepted as reliable and accurate. When psychological and physical factors are taken into consideration, all of these incidents are explained rationally, as pointed out by Rand Corporation and the U.S. Air Materiel Command Aerodynamic Laboratory (see Appendix I).

Air Materiel Command Aerodynamic Laboratory
(12 incidents considered)

There are sufficient psychological explanations for the unidentified flying objects to provide plausible explanations for reports not otherwise explainable. These errors in reporting stimuli result chiefly from inability to estimate speed, distance, and direction.

All of the remaining 34 incidents are treated in detail in the report. These incidents form no pattern in regard to area or type of object, or manner of performance. There are indications that some of the sightings were influenced by earlier reports. The incidents have been considered in detail for their significance.

Project 44-30

Summary of SAC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

1. Summary of SAC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

The remaining unexplained incidents (see Appendix I) have various characteristics. Two of them, by statements of the witnesses, had been made had the witnesses not read of the first incident (Incident No. 17). Most were distributed without pattern throughout the United States. A few were outside the U. S. The descriptions of appearance or performance were exactly alike. The sightings occurred at various times of day and year.

APPENDIX I

In the following section of this report, each remaining unidentified incident is considered separately. It is not the intent to generalize the character of observers, but each case has undesirable elements, and cannot be disregarded. The numerical designation is merely the number of the incident in the project files.

1. 10, 17, 21, 29, 35, 37, 40, 51, 58, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84,
111, 112, 134, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 230.

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident #162

1. Date **11 Aug 48**
2. Time **1200 and 1215 hours CST**
3. Location **Hamel, Minnesota**
4. Name of observer **Jerome Leuer (age 10) and Bennie Leuer (age 8)**
5. Occupation of observer **children**
6. Address of observer **R/R 1 Hamel, Minnesota**
7. Place of observation **As above - back yard**
8. Number of objects **1**
9. Distance of object from observer **a matter of a few feet**
10. Time in sight **N/S**
11. Altitude **rested on ground -**
12. Speed **N/S**
13. Direction of flight **After resting on ground it ascended to a height of 30 feet and shot off in a northeasterly direction**
14. Tactics **spun once, made whistling noise, shot straight up 20 ft, halted and again made whistling noise. Maneuvered around tree branches & tele wires.**
15. Sound **whistling noise - like steam whistle**
16. Size **1 ft thick - 2 feet wide**
17. Color **dull gray**
18. Shape **round**
19. Odor detected **N/S**
20. Apparent construction **metallic**
21. Exhaust trails **N/S**
22. Weather conditions **N/S**
23. Effect on clouds **N/S**
24. Sketches or photographs **None**
25. Manner of disappearance **into northeast**
26. Remarks: **(over)**

Informants stated that on 11 Aug 48 between 1200 and 1215 hours, CST, Jerome and Benno were playing in the back yard and noticed an object in descent approximately twelve feet from the ground which was descending between the two of them. It settled to the ground gently - much as a balloon. Upon hitting the ground the object spun once, made a sort of whistling noise, described by the two boys as resembling a steam whistle, and then shot straight up into the air approximately 20 feet, halted and again made a whistling noise. The object then shot upward to a height of about 30 feet, and, in this ascent, maneuvered around tree branches and telephone wires. Upon reaching a height of approximately 30 feet the object shot off in a northeasterly direction. The object approached from the northwest.

The boys described the object as "approximately one foot thick, two feet side and round." The object had no windows, wires, or any visible appurtenances. It was a dull gray in color and when it hit the ground, it made a slight clanking noise, much as metal hitting against metal.

Philip and Mrs. Leuer stated the boys were visibly frightened when they ran into the house and were afraid to tell what they had seen. Upon close questioning, the boys related the above story to them.

Mr. Leuer advised that he then had notified Mr. E. R. Sheridan, Postmaster at Hamel, Minnesota (who subsequently notified the proper authorities)

AGENTS NOTES: Agent noted that the spot where the alleged "flying saucer" had landed was approximately 2 feet in diameter and appeared as though some heavy object had landed there or had been set down - as the ground was dented and protruding rocks had been leveled. The spot was covered by a washtub.

Mr. E. R. Sheridan, Postmaster, advised that he had no reason to doubt the story of the boys or of Mr. and Mrs. Leuer, and for this reason had reported the matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, St. Paul, Minn.

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
1660 East Hyde Park Boulevard
Chicago 15, Illinois

Incident 162

ALFGP

17 August 1948

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Wright-Patterson Airforce Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: RCI

1. Attached is Special Agent's report re reported flying saucers in vicinity of Hamol, Minnesota.
2. Attached information has been forwarded to Director of Intelligence.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl.
report, subj as above

WILLIAM L. LINDSEY
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Executive Officer - 3-2

1. On 13 August 1948, this Agent interviewed

Mr. Philip Leuer
Mrs. Philip Leuer
Jerome Leuer (Age 10)
Benno Leuer (Age 8)

at their home at Route 1, Hamel, Minnesota.

Informants stated that on 11 August 1948 between 1200 and 1215 hours, CST, Jerome and Benno were playing in the back yard and that they noticed an object in descent approximately twelve feet from the ground, which was descending between the two of them. This object settled to the ground gently, much as a balloon. Upon hitting the ground, the object spun once, made a sort of whistling noise, described by the two boys as resembling a steam whistle, and then shot straight up into the air approximately twenty feet, halted, and again made a whistling noise. The object then shot upward to a height of about thirty feet, and, in this ascent, maneuvered around tree branches and telephone wires. On reaching a height of approximately thirty feet, the object shot off in a northeasterly direction. The object approached from the northwest.

The boys described the object as "approximately one foot thick, two feet wide, and round." The object had no windows, wires, or any visible appurtenances. The object was a dull gray in color, and when it hit the ground, it made a slight clanking noise, much as metal hitting against metal.

Philip and Mrs. Leuer stated the boys were visibly frightened when they ran into the house and were afraid to tell what they had seen. Upon close questioning, the boys related the above story to them.

Mr. Leuer advised that he then notified Mr. E. R. Sheridan, Postmaster at Hamel, Minnesota, of the incident.

When this Agent arrived on the scene, he was taken to a spot covered by a washtub, which Mr. and Mrs. Leuer advised was the spot where the alleged "flying saucer" had landed. This spot was approximately two feet in diameter and appeared to this Agent as though some heavy object had landed there or beenset down there, as the ground was dented and rocks protruding from the ground had been leveled.

(F-6)

AGENT'S NOTES: This Agent advised the Leuer family that the matter would be reported to higher Headquarters and requested them to keep the matter confidential.

2. On 13 August 1948, this Agent interviewed Mr. E. R. Sheridan, Postmaster, Hamel, Minnesota, who substantiated the above information and advised that he had no reason to doubt the story of the boys or Mr. and Mrs. Leuer. For this reason Sheridan reported the matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, St. Paul, Minnesota.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

DOD DIR 5200.10

AGENT'S NOTES: This Agent thanked Mr. Sheridan for his interest in the matter

and assured him the matter would be referred to higher authority, and also requested that he keep the matter confidential.

3. Attached is letter received from M. B. Rhodes, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, St. Paul, Minnesota.

CHARLES L. VICTOR
113th CIC Detachment.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
404 New York Building
St. Paul 1, Minnesota
August 12, 1948

UNCLASSIFIED

Captain Charles L. Victor
Area Intelligence Officer
Office of AC of S, G-2
Room 1032, Post Office Bldg.
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Captain Victor:

On August 11, 1948, this office received a letter from Mr. E. R. Sheridan, Postmaster, Hamel, Minnesota, which reads as follows:

"A farmer, who lives a short distance from this village, reported to this office that his two sons, age 8 & 10, had seen a 'flying saucer'. This object which looked like two plates inverted drifted to the ground about eight feet from one of the boys. When it hit the ground it rebounded very rapidly and disappeared.

"This object came in from the northwest & disappeared to the northeast. It was a silver colored object. Evidently this farmer believes that his sons saw some object and I have no reason to doubt his word. For your information."

This matter is being referred to you for whatever action you deem advisable. No investigation is being conducted by this office.

Very truly yours,

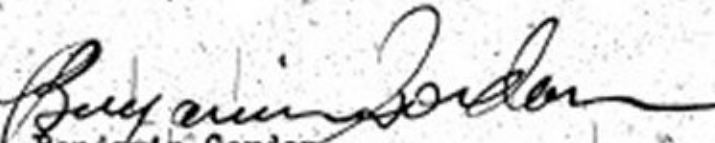
/s/ M. B. Rhodes
M. B. RHODES
Special Agent in Charge

ACTION TAKEN ON HAMEL, MINN. INCIDENT

Reference letter 17 Aug 1948 from Hq 5th Army, received MCIAXO-3 on 20 August 1948, pertaining to incident in Hamel, Minnesota, the following action has been taken:

On 20 Aug 48 a call was placed to Hq, 5th Army, contacting Lt Col William B. Allison, Executive Officer, G-2. Colonel Allison informed this Headquarters that action would be taken to resurvey the incident and to accomplish photographic and earth-sample investigations of the area in which the incident occurred.

On 21 August (Saturday) a call was received by Capt Gordon from a Major Morgan of Hq, 5th Army, informing Capt Gordon (MCIAXO-3) that the indentation occasioned by the missile had been covered since the incidence. Unfortunately, however, since the occurrence there had been two or three heavy rainfalls and the depression in the ground previously noted was found to be 1/3 full of water. Photographic coverage was made, however, and samples of rocks and earth in the depression were extracted. This evidence was being forwarded to 5th Army Hq Area as of Tuesday the 24th and would be forwarded this office (MCIAXO-3) immediately upon receipt, and should arrive this Hq. by the end of the week.


Benjamin Gordon
Captain, USAF
Project Engineer

26 August 1948

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Wright Patterson Airforce Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: NOI AXO Project: Sign

1. Reference is made to letter this headquarters, subject as above, dated 17 August 1948, and telephone conversation between Major Prentice G. Morgan, this headquarters, and Captain Ben Gordon on 22 August 1948.

2. Attached are samples of gravel and dirt taken from a depression made by an unknown object near Hamel, Minnesota on 20 August 1948. Also inclosed are four (4) photographs and negatives of the same area before samples had been removed.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Incls.
Sapls/gravel & dirt
4 Photos & Negs.

WILLIAM B. ALLISON
Lt. Colonel, GSC
Executive Officer - G-2

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PCIAID-3/7/84/20
Wright-Patterson AF Base
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
9 September 1948

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
ATTN: FBI Laboratory

ASAC: Project #103

Gentlemen:

Accompanying this letter is a small sample of soil. This soil was taken from a depression reputed to have been caused by a "flying saucer" described as being approximately two feet in diameter and one foot thick which supposedly settled gently to the ground, rebounded to a height of about twenty feet and then continued on its journey. Although the declivity was immediately covered by a large wasteb a heavy rain subsequently filled the depression about one-third full of water before any sample of dirt could be taken.

In an effort to approach this incident objectively to determine every possible clue, it has been deemed advisable to have this soil sample analyzed and tested. Upon inquiry, your Dayton representative stated that the FBI Laboratory could accomplish the required tests.

It is the desire of this Headquarters to ascertain, in particular, if there are traces of unusual elements or alloys adhering to the surface of the particles, or if any abnormality in structure exists showing that the soil was subjected to intense heat, gases or radio-active substances, etc. Unfortunately, in this regard, no one thought to forward a sample of the soil surrounding the depression so no comparison of soils can be made at this time. Should the subsequent test show anything unusual some arrangement could be made to procure some of the surrounding soil so that a comparative analysis could be made. The accompanying sample has not been tested by any other agency, nor will it be.

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Project "SIGN"

9 Sept 1948

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

In the event the tests show nothing warranting further investigation you may dispose of the sample. The report should be addressed to this Command marked for the attention of NSIAD-3. This Division will appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Incl

W. R. CLINGMAN
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Technical Intelligence
Division
Intelligence Department

UNITED STATES DEPT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 17, 1948

Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AF Base
Dayton, Ohio

Attention: MCIAXO-3

Re: Project "SIGN"
Examination of Soil

Dear Sir:

The Bureau acknowledges receipt of the evidence which you have submitted in the above-entitled case for examination in the FBI Laboratory. This material is being given appropriate attention and your office will be subsequently advised.

I am Assuring you of my desire to cooperate in these matters.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,

Director